


# WOODMONT WALK

Milford, CT

Woodmont was incorporated as a borough of Milford in 1903. Woodmont is adjacent to the City of West Haven and has an interesting history as a bustling beach resort for residents of New Haven and Bridgeport as well as those from further a field. A trolley provided direct service from New Haven into Woodmont and helped foster this area's popularity and rapid growth. This walk follows the trolley route used for the annual Woodmont Day festivities held since 1962 in early July. Historic sites include:

1. **The Kittle Shop (1940s).** Local convenience shop. Now a private garage.
2. **Anderson Towers.** Formerly a summer hotel. Now a private residence.
3. **Woodmont Trolley (1890s-1941).** The old route ran from Mont Street to Anderson Avenue. Defined Woodmont's north boundary
4. **Treat and Beach Farms (1660).** Originally owned by Robert Treat. The farm stand and nursery still in operation.
5. **Woodmont Union Chapel (1886).** The first non-denominational place of worship in the area.
6. **Bryan House (1790).** Woodmont area's oldest house.

7. **Trolley Station (1920s).** Now a popular restaurant. Trolley garages in back are now small retail shops.
8. **Villa Rosa (1910).** Sylvester Z. Polk, of Loews-Polk Theatre fame, built this elaborate Italianate mansion as a gift to his wife.



9. **Woodmont Lodge.** Summer rooming house. Facade still intact. Now condominiums.
10. **The Sanford House.** Site of the popular and well-known summer hotel.
11. **Cherry Street Shopping Area (1920s).** Original shopping area. Now Village Road. A restaurant now operates in the area.
12. **Seaside Woodmont Pharmacy (1920s).** Now a two-family house.
13. **Crescent Beach and the Blakeslee House.**
14. **Anchor Beach.** Historically this beach had Woodmont's smoothest sand. Sand was added to the other rocky beaches in the late 1950s.

15. **Signal Rock** Distinctive by its flagpole. **Potato Rock.** Large rock off Crescent Beach.

Photo by Deborah Rowe



## Directions and Parking:

Take I-95 to Exit 40 Woodmont Road. Turn south on Woodmont Road which turns into Anderson Avenue. Make right onto New Haven Avenue (Route 162) after approximately 1 mile. Parking is available on side streets. Do not park on Beach Avenue.

## Permitted Activities:

Dogs are allowed on public streets and sidewalks on leash. Please bag and pick up any dog waste. Dogs are not permitted on the beach.

## For more information about this location, contact:

Environmental Concerns Coalition  
c/o Mayor's Office  
(203) 783-3201  
[www.milfordecc.com](http://www.milfordecc.com)

*This project made possible through a grant from the National Recreational Trails Program, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.*



*Information for this brochure is excerpted from the brochure written to celebrate Woodmont's centennial — "Hail Woodmont," by Katie Krauss Murphy.*

## South Central Regional Council of Governments

127 Washington Avenue, 4th Floor West  
North Haven, CT 06473

Phone: (203) 234-7555  
Fax: (203) 234-9850  
E-mail: [trails@scrcog.org](mailto:trails@scrcog.org)

16. **Umbrella Tree.** A Cedar of Lebanon. Original tree succumbed to hurricane in the 1950s and has been replaced.
17. **The Pembroke Hotel.** Site of well-known summer hotel. New condominiums on site.
18. **Woodmont Firehouse (1897).** Site of the original firehouse.
19. **Woodmont/Fannie Beach School (1918).** Woodmont's first two-rooms school house. Named after its most well-known teacher and principal.
20. **St. Agnes Chapel (1906).** Area's first Roman Catholic Church - open for the summer season only. Demolished.
21. **Richard J. Austin Borough Hall (1940s).** Originally portable classrooms. The borough's office and community room. Named after the current warden who has served since 1974.
22. **The Bonsilene Hotel.** Former beach hotel. Currently apartments.

*Milford, Connecticut*

